

September 17, 1996

The Christchurch Star  
Attn: Bob Cotton  
PO Box 1467  
Christchurch NZ

Dear Mr. Cotton,

My name is Christopher Barger. I am an analyst for the Assassination Records Review Board, which is an independent agency of the United States Government. The ARRB was created to review and release all records which remain classified by the US government which relate to the assassination of President John F. Kennedy; these records will eventually be available to the public at the US National Archives in Washington, DC. In addition to these duties, whenever it is possible, we have attempted to clarify areas of the record which have been subject to confusion, misunderstanding, or speculation. Often, our work in this area involves reviewing newspapers from the weekend of November 22-25, 1963. One of the newspapers that has been called to our attention is the *Christchurch Star*, specifically, the November 23, 1963 issue.

As I told you on the telephone, the ARRB is interested in obtaining a photocopy of the Star from that day. Additionally, if there is anything in your records that would indicate what time the issue went to press, and what time the issue became available to the public, that information would be very helpful to us. Any information you could give us regarding these times would be greatly appreciated.

It is important to emphasize that the ARRB is *not* conducting a re-investigation of President Kennedy's murder. We do not espouse or refute any particular theory or explanation of the assassination. Rather, it is our hope that by releasing all of the available information, we will enable the American public, and the people of the world, to make up their own minds about what happened that day from a more well-informed perspective.

If it is the policy of the *Christchurch Star* that shipping and copying costs be paid by the recipient, please inform me as much, and the ARRB will do so.

If there are any questions or problems about this request, please contact me, and I will be happy to do whatever is necessary to make this work. I can be reached in four ways: by mail, fax, telephone, or e-mail. Our address is:

Assassination Records Review Board  
600 E St., 2nd Floor  
Washington, DC 20530  
USA

Telephone: (202) 724-0088. My extension is 259.  
Fax: (202) 724-0457

E-mail: [Christopher\\_Barger@jfk-arrb.gov](mailto:Christopher_Barger@jfk-arrb.gov)

In order to further acquaint you with our organization and its mandate, I am sending you an information package about our Board and the work we do. I hope you find it interesting.

Thank you again for your attention to this matter. I appreciate your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Christopher Barger  
Analyst, Military Records